

University of Dayton eCommons

News Releases

Marketing and Communications

12-6-2002

Thousands of Children and Community Members will Join UD Students, Staff in Celebration of Christmas on Campus

University of Dayton

Follow this and additional works at: https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls

Recommended Citation

University of Dayton, "Thousands of Children and Community Members will Join UD Students, Staff in Celebration of Christmas on Campus" (2002). *News Releases*. 9927.
https://ecommons.udayton.edu/news_rls/9927

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the Marketing and Communications at eCommons. It has been accepted for inclusion in News Releases by an authorized administrator of eCommons. For more information, please contact frice1@udayton.edu, mschlangen1@udayton.edu.



Dec. 6, 2002
Contact: Pamela Gregg
gregg@udayton.edu

NEWS TIPS

SUNDAY, DEC. 8: THOUSANDS OF CHILDREN AND COMMUNITY MEMBERS WILL JOIN UD STUDENTS, STAFF IN CELEBRATION OF CHRISTMAS ON CAMPUS

Some 8,000 children and adults from the University of Dayton and surrounding neighborhoods are expected to fill campus for UD's 39th annual Christmas on Campus celebration **Sunday, Dec. 8**. Started as a way for UD students to share the holidays with one another before going home, the event has evolved into a celebration of Christmas with the entire Dayton community that includes carnival games, a petting zoo, a live nativity scene and a standing-room-only Mass attended by about 4,000.

According to event organizers, one of the highlights of the evening takes place when approximately 1,200 children from Dayton area public and Catholic schools arrive on buses, faces pressed to the windows, to meet their UD-student escorts. Buses will arrive at **5:30 p.m.** in parking lot B at Stewart Street and Zehler Avenue. Through the process of "adoptions" that take place several weeks before the event, each visiting child has been matched with a UD student sponsor who will greet his or her young charge and serve as a personal escort for the evening of fun and festivities.

Many of the children who come will be without hats, gloves and other warm outerwear, said student coordinator Stacy Ziarko. Their first stop will be to a nearby table loaded with hats, mittens, scarves and other items donated by students, staff and faculty. The children will keep what they pick.

From lot B, the elementary and college students will join the large crowd of visitors from the Dayton community gathered in Kennedy Union Plaza for lighting of a donated 40-foot blue spruce at **6 p.m.** Santa Claus will arrive in grand style aboard a fire truck, and UD president Daniel J. Curran will mark his first Christmas on Campus by extending a welcome to visitors.

Immediately after, the crowd will scatter to the Kennedy Union, Jesse Philips Humanities Center, Miriam Hall and Collins Gymnasium for craft activities, carnival games, a petting zoo, a live nativity scene and live entertainment including dancers, jugglers, clowns, magicians, musicians and more. All activities are free and open to the public.

After the children depart, folks will head to the Frericks Center for a **9:30 p.m.** Mass and musical celebration of Christmas. Some 4,000 people are expected to attend the Mass, which will include a 200-member choir and orchestra.

Some of the highlighted activities include:

5:30 p.m.

Children will arrive and meet their UD student escorts, parking lot B

-over-

OFFICE OF PUBLIC RELATIONS
300 College Park Dayton, Ohio 45469-1679
(937) 229-3241 (937) 229-3063 Fax
www.udayton.edu

Kennedy Union and adjoining plaza:

- 6 p.m. Live nativity, tree lighting, Santa's arrival, welcome by Daniel J. Curran
6:30-8:30 p.m. Continuous entertainment in Boll Theatre and the Torch Lounge by student and professional dance ensembles and UD student choruses
6:30-8:30 p.m. Large and colorful wood jigsaw puzzle of the world for children to piece together, room 211; model train display, first floor; face painting, room 207; ornament painting, room 222

Jesse Philips Humanities Center and adjoining plaza:

- 6:30-8:30 p.m. Pictures with Santa, Santa's workshop
6:30-8:30 p.m. Ice sculptor, arts and crafts, international cultures in rooms 112, 117, 202, 204, 205 and 207

Miriam Hall:

- 6:30-8:30 p.m. Gingerbread houses, making musical instruments, face painting, cookie decorating, crafts and games in rooms 201 through 215
6:30-7:30 Animals from Columbus Zoo, first-floor auditorium

Collins Gymnasium:

- 6-8 p.m. Carnival; booths sponsored by UD student organizations

On the grounds:

- 6:30-8:30 p.m. World's Most Dangerous Juggling Club, toy soldiers, snowmen, reindeer, Santa and Mrs. Claus, Tigger and Scooby Doo

Frericks center:

- 9:30 p.m. Musical Celebration of Christmas/Mass featuring 200-member choir and orchestra

For more information, call the Christmas on Campus office at (937) 229-3483.